

AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN



FOR NEWPORT

(RE)BUILDING COMMUNITY

ARPA Community Survey Overview & Recommendations



ABOUT THE ARPA

*Newport has been allocated over **\$7.2 million** in federal funds through The American Rescue Plan Act.*

Funding levels were determined by population and are intended to accelerate the recovery from the health & economic effects of the COVID 19 pandemic.



OUR APPROACH

Shortly after the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, the City began to solicit feedback from both senior staff as well as the Public in order to determine the most appropriate use of funds.

The following details our Public Engagement strategy and initial results.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

In order to maximize responses, we deployed a two-fold public engagement process including:

- ***ARPA Ideas Portal:*** *open-ended, non-directional forum for native and non-native speakers*
- ***Online Survey:*** *traditional directed questionnaire with identifier requirements & open-ended answers.*

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Newport's Online ARPA Engagement began Sept. 15th and ran until Nov. 9th.

450+

TOTAL RESPONSES

362 Survey Responses

94 Portal Submissions

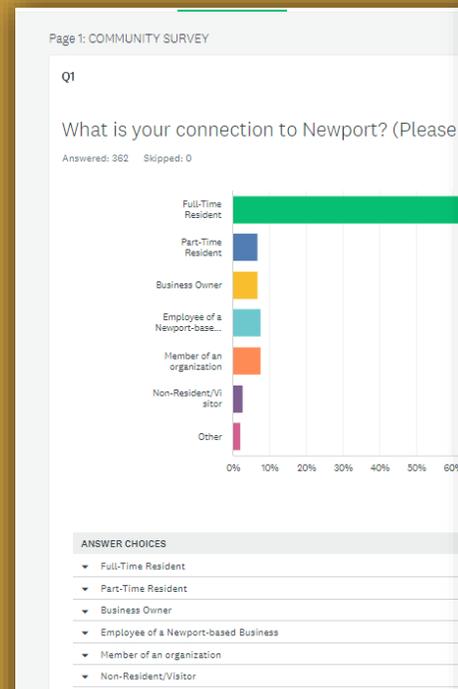
86%

FULL TIME RESIDENTS

6.5% Seasonal Resident

12.3% Local Business Owner or Employee

- *Dedicated Webpage (www.CityofNewport.com/ARPA)*
- *Media Coverage/Press Releases*
- *E-Newsletter & Direct Outreach*
- *Social Media Campaign*



Welcome to the City of Newport, RHODE ISLAND

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AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FOR NEWPORT

Submit an Idea | ARPA Rules | Take the Survey!

Home > City Hall > City Initiatives > ARP

The American Rescue Plan Act

The U.S. Department of the Treasury is beginning the launch of its Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program which was established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The Act contains **\$350 billion** in emergency funding for eligible state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments.

As part of their rollout, Treasury has released details on how these funds can be used in order to respond to acute pandemic response needs; fill revenue shortfalls among these governments; and support the communities and populations hardest-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Engagement Calendar

City Councilors will be holding a series of community discussions to determine how Newport can make the best use of American Rescue Plan funds.

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ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

Full Survey results can be found at www.CityofNewport.com/ARPA



OVERVIEW

In both unsolicited and prompted forums, Newport residents overwhelmingly expressed a desire to invest in:

- ***Infrastructure:*** Roads, Water, Sidewalks, & Resiliency
- ***Housing:*** Affordable & Attainable Housing
- ***Broadband:*** For business and residential use
- ***Civic Support:*** Mental Health, the Arts & Environment

SUMMARY FINDINGS

When asked to identify their TOP 6 project priorities, Newporters said:

54% *Road & Sidewalk Repairs*

52% *Water Main & Sewer Projects*

48% *Resiliency Projects*

41% *Housing Assistance*

36% *Broadband Access*

35% *Open Space & Recreation*



SUMMARY FINDINGS

When asked to identify the TOP 3 most important things about Newport

- 46%** *Road & Sidewalk Repairs*
- 42%** *Affordable/Attainable Housing*
- 41%** *Stormwater & Water Infrastructure*

-
- 32%** *Supporting Local Businesses*
 - 32%** *Making Newport More Resilient to Climate Change*
 - 20%** *Improving Transportation Options*
 - 20%** *Enhancing our Parks & Recreation Facilities*
 - 15%** *Public Safety*
 - 14%** *Supporting Equity & Public Health Programs*



pedestrian road family like small well
northend school center money
population work one service sidewalk grant parking
fix way child street space use
business help housing health broadband
island time infrastructure mental
public year along water new serve person
beach resident also provide tree
handicapped traffic park program tree
training especially building speed high need
make

What you're saying

www.CityofNewport.com/ARPA



SELECT COMMENTS

From Open-ended Responses

*“Funding should support **the quality of life of residents and taxpayers.**”*

*“**Make road repair and sidewalks a priority.** They are important to everyone’s safety and will enhance the appearance of the city.”*

*“We love Newport and want to continue to see it thrive. As a Coastal community, **being resilient to climate change** is crucial for the future.”*

*“Addressing the **houseless** situation. Too many families and individuals including students are living houseless before, during, and after the pandemic.”*

*“**Broadband for the North End** is essential to equity, especially given the post-COVID world of online dependence – having that connection is fundamental to full participation in civic, educational, health and all other systems.”*

*“Strengthen focus on **mental/personal health** awareness with our youth...”*

*“**Expanding the arts** and access to them.”*

*“**Assessing the ways that Covid has impacted seniors** in Newport and using funds, as appropriate, to mitigate those impacts.”*

*“**Use it wisely**”*

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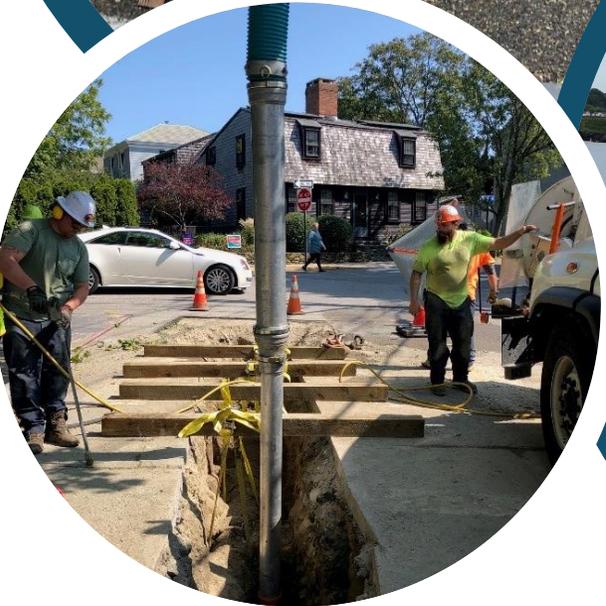
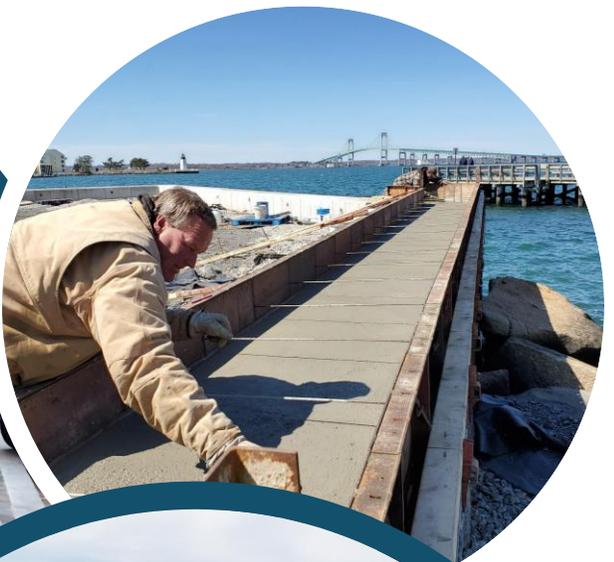
RECOMMENDATIONS

For Recharging the Community



INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE

*Improving our Roadways,
Sidewalks & Sewers*





EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

*Through Programmatic
Civic Support*





BUILDING CONNECTIVITY

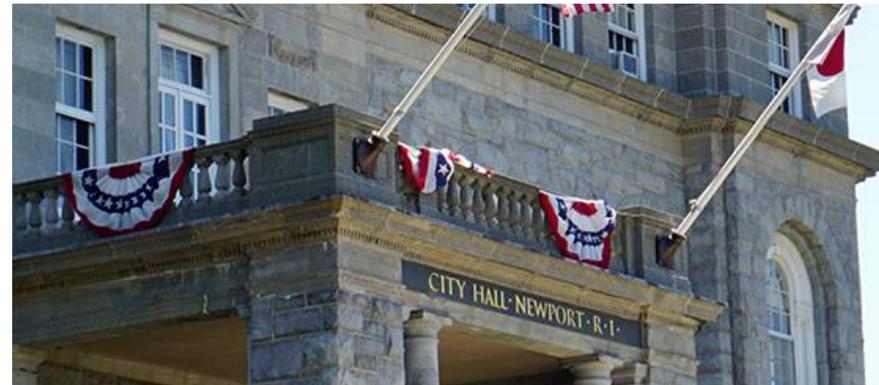
*Through Broadband &
Adaptive Technologies*





SAVING TAXPAYERS

*Supplementing Lost
Revenue*





QUESTIONS?

*Join us for a special City Council workshop on
Wednesday, March 2nd to learn more*